

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 CPR-02 INR-10 RSC-01 /047 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:CARIS/ORAGGREY:IW

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S/CPR:WCODUS

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S/S-O:SEFRY

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R 170128Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 163399

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP, IV (HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, FELIX)

SUBJ: STATE VISIT BY HOUPHOUET

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. IN ORDER TO PERMIT EARLIEST POSSIBLE SCHEDULING OF U.S. PRINCIPALS, NEED HOUPHOUET'S REACTIONS TO PROPOSALS ON WASHINGTON PORTION OF VISIT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER AMBASSADOR AHOUA HAS HELD INITIAL ABIDJAN DISCUSSIONS ON SCHEDULE. WE HOPE THAT GOIC ACCEPTS OUR SUGGESTION FOR DEPARTURE FROM WASHINGTON FOR WEST COAST ON THIRD DAY ALTHOUGH DEPARTURE COULD BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTERNOON SHOULD IMPORTANT LUNCHEON POSSIBILITY DEVELOP. HOWEVER, WE NEED TO KNOW SPECIFICALLY (1) WHETHER HOUPHOUET STRONGLY DESIRES REMAIN THIRD NIGHT AND (2) WHETHER GOIC PLANNING DINNER AND/OR RECEPTION ON SECOND NIGHT.

2- IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW MODE AND APPROXIMATE TIME OF ARRIVAL OF HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY PARTY. PRESUME THERE WILL
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BE PRESIDENTIAL CHARTER. IDEAL ARRANGEMENT REMAINS FOR

PARTY TO REACH CONUS ON OCTOBER 8 AND OVERNIGHT AT MUTUALLY AGREEABLE POINT ON EAST COAST SO AS TO ASSURE PROMPT ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON FOR STATE VISIT CEREMONY AT ELIPSE MORNING OCTOBER 9. FIRST DRAFT PROPOSED WILLIAMSBURG AS POSSIBILITY, BUT IN VIEW SOME RESERVATIONS REGISTERED HERE ABOUT THE CITY'S COLONIAL ATMOSPHERE, DEPT IS ALSO EXPLORING OTHER POSSIBILITIES.

3. ANY OTHER PRESIDENTIAL WISHES YOU CAN PASS ALONG WITH RESPECT TO SCHEDULE WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL PRIOR TO AHOUA'S RETURN (E.G. NAMES OF OFFICIAL PARTY). ROGERS

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